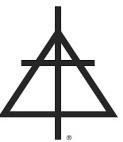




## A Question Of Faith #3: What about the violent God of the Old Testament?



1 Samuel 15:1-33

October 19, 2014 Kemptonville CRC

"Now go, attack the Amalekites... do not spare them..."

- God is L\_\_\_\_ (1 John 4:8). What's your first instinct for harmonizing that with this story?
- Do we HAVE to harmonize these two? Or passages such as Malachi 3:6; Hebrews 13:8? Can't we cut out the parts that don't fit as non-inspired?

- God cares for human life  
(check out Jonah 4:10; Psalm 8; Psalm 116:15; Lamentations 3:32-33)

- How might our present Western values affect how we read violent passages?  
Is that a problem?

- "The Bible is the divinely-inspired book telling the huge, sweeping story of God's relentless quest to bring heaven and earth together for ever." (N.T. Wright)  
If we accept this, how does that affect the way we read it?  
Consider Isaiah's vision (2:4)

- Ancient Palestine was inhabited by:

- Triumph in warfare sent the message that....  
(Joshua 2:11)

- Did God care about Canaanite behaviour?  
(Genesis 15:16)

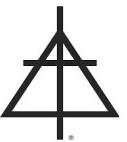
- God's purpose for Israel was....

- But what about the women?  
(Numbers 25:1-3)

- And the children?



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